GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:621
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2001
SANKYA VAHINI PROJECT
NANDIPAKU VENKATASWAMY

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Carnegie Mellon University has withdrawn from the `Sankya Vahini Project`;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to restore the project to meet the challenges of the 21st century?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reasons cited by the Carnegie Mellon University are the delay in launching of the Project and a Public Interest Litigation in Delhi High Court against the proposed joint venture.

(c) The government will proceed with its original plan of providing bandwidth through Sanchar Sagar Projects. Phase I and Phase II of Sanchar Sagar Project will be followed by induction of Dense Wave Division Multiplexing systems (DWDM) to cater to higher bandwidth requirements. Sanchar Sagar Phase-I has been completed covering 33 cities and Phase II will cover 150 additional cities. In addition, Private Sector Companies and some other PSUs are also executing Optical Fibre links for providing bandwidth in the country.